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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines

Report of the Secretary-General

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* On behalf of the States members of the European Union and of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe associated with it (Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia) as well as of the associated countries Cyprus and Malta.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 12 December 1995, the General Assembly adopted resolution 50/70 O, entitled "Moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines", operative paragraphs 1 to 3 of which read as follows:

> "The General Assembly,
>
> "...
>
> "1. Welcomes the moratoriums already declared by certain States on the export of anti-personnel landmines;
>
> "2. Urges States that have not yet done so to declare such moratoriums at the earliest possible date;
>
> "3. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on steps taken by Member States to implement such moratoriums, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session under the item entitled 'General and complete disarmament'.

2. In pursuance of the request contained in paragraph 3 of resolution 50/70 O, the Secretary-General requested, in a note verbale dated 23 March 1996, that Member States provide the relevant information on the matter by 31 May 1996. Information has been received thus far from Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Israel, Italy (and on behalf of the European Union and of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe associated with it - Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia - as well as of the associated countries Cyprus and Malta), Jordan, Liechtenstein, Singapore and Ukraine. Any additional information received from Member States will be issued as addenda to the present report.

II. MEASURES TAKEN TO LIMIT THE EXPORT OF ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES

3. In 1993, on an initiative by the United States of America, the General Assembly called on Member States to declare a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines (resolution 48/75 K of 16 December 1993), and continued to do so in 1994 (resolution 49/75 D of 15 December 1994) and in 1995 (resolution 50/70 O). Also in 1993, the Assembly adopted resolution 48/79, which began the process leading to the establishment of a group of governmental experts to prepare a review conference, and ultimately to the holding of the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW Review Conference).

4. The convening of the Review Conference, in September 1995, generated a flurry of unilateral, regional and global activity.

A. Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

5. At the final meeting of its first session, on 13 October 1995, the Review Conference adopted the text of a Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV). At its two resumed sessions, from 15 to 19 January 1996 and from 22 April to 3 May 1996, the Conference concluded the review and the amendment of Protocol II (on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices). Amended Protocol II and a Final Declaration were adopted on 3 May by the 55 States parties to the Convention. 1/

6. In accordance with article 8 of amended Protocol II, dealing with "Transfers", the high contracting parties would undertake: not to transfer any mine the use of which was prohibited by the Protocol; not to transfer any mine to any recipient other than a State or a State agency authorized to receive such transfers; to exercise restraint in the transfer of any mine the use of which was restricted by the Protocol (in particular any anti-personnel mines to States which were not bound by the Protocol, unless the recipient State agreed to apply the Protocol); and to ensure that any transfer in accordance with the article took place in full compliance, by both the transferring and the recipient State, with the relevant provisions of the Protocol and the applicable norms of international humanitarian law. States parties will hold annual conferences to discuss the operation and implementation of the amended Protocol.

B. Unilateral initiatives

7. The following unilateral activities have been reported: 2/

(a) As of 28 June 1996, 54 States have declared their support for a global ban on anti-personnel landmines: Afghanistan, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay;

1/ For full details on the Review Conference and the texts of the Additional Protocol, amended Protocol II and the Final Declaration, see document CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I). A list of the documents of the Conference is contained in document CCW/CONF.I/16.

2/ See also the reports of the Secretary-General (A/49/275 and Add.1 and A/50/701), as well as section III of the present report.

(b) In April 1996, Australia announced the indefinite suspension of the use of anti-personnel landmines, and noted that only "in the case of a substantial deterioration in [its] strategic circumstances, in which Australia's security was under threat ... would suspension be reviewed";

(c) Bulgaria informed the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament that by Decision No. 104 of 2 May 1996 concerning changes and amendments to the imports and exports regime of the Republic of Bulgaria, a timely moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines was introduced. The decision took effect immediately upon adoption and is valid until 30 April 1999;

(d) In January 1996, Canada informed the Secretary-General that it was declaring a comprehensive unilateral moratorium on the production, export and operational use of anti-personnel landmines;

(e) In April 1996, China declared at the CCW Review Conference that, pending the entry into force of the amended Landmine Protocol, it would implement a moratorium on its export of anti-personnel landmines that were not in conformity with the technical specifications on detectability, self-destruction and self-deactivation as provided for by the Protocol, and would ban the export of booby traps;

(f) Denmark, on 28 June 1996, announced in a press release that it would "unilaterally refrain from using anti-personnel mines in the Danish defense";

(g) The Finnish press reported on 4 May 1996 that Finland planned to spend 2 million Finnish markkaa to modify its existing stocks of anti-personnel landmines to make them detectable (making Finland the first country to modify its stocks to comply with the provisions of amended Protocol II of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons);

(h) On 16 April 1996, Germany announced that its army would no longer be equipped with landmines and that it intended to destroy over a million of them;

(i) The Congress of Guatemala adopted a resolution, transmitted to the United Nations on 9 July 1996, supporting the elimination of anti-personnel landmines;

(j) On 15 July 1996, Israel informed the Secretary-General of its decision to extend the moratorium on export of anti-personnel landmines for a further period of three years and reiterated its readiness to share with other States its know-how, assistance and training in mine clearance;

(k) In March 1996, the Netherlands announced that it would no longer use anti-personnel landmines and that stockpiled mines would be destroyed. On 2 April, a resolution calling for a bill banning the production of these weapons was passed by a unanimous vote of the Lower House of the Dutch Parliament, which was the final step to a comprehensive ban in the Netherlands;

(l) Following its announcement at the first session of the CCW Review Conference, held in September/October 1995, that it had no stocks of anti-personnel mines, New Zealand, in April 1996, announced a formal

renunciation of these weapons. It reserved its right to review this position in "exceptional" circumstances;

(m) Norway announced that it would destroy its existing stocks of anti-personnel landmines in January 1996;

(n) In a Presidential statement made in December 1995, the Philippines announced that it would destroy its anti-personnel mine stockpile. The Armed Forces of the Philippines subsequently reported that it had disposed of all remaining claymore mines in its inventory as of March 1996;

(o) In May 1996, Singapore informed the Secretary-General that it had declared a two-year moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines that had no self-destruct or self-neutralizing mechanisms;

(p) On 13 May 1996, South Africa announced a permanent ban on the export of landmines, and an interim ban on their use by its defence force, which will conduct a study to review long-term policy. [Last year South Africa announced that it planned to replace its existing stocks with "smart" mines];

(q) In March 1996, the Swiss Chamber of Deputies adopted a bill supporting a ban on anti-personnel mines;

(r) In January 1996, Turkey informed the United Nations that it had decided, on a unilateral basis, to declare a comprehensive moratorium on all anti-personnel landmine exports and transfers, for a renewable term of three years;

(s) In April 1996, the United Kingdom announced that it would destroy a substantial part of its existing stocks of anti-personnel landmines; would not use any of these mines operationally, except in exceptional circumstances and with specific ministerial authorization; and would also extend with immediate effect its national export moratorium to prohibit the export of all types of anti-personnel landmines to all destinations;

(t) On 16 May 1996, the President of the United States, in announcing the new United States landmine policy, stated that the United States would: end use of "dumb" mines by 1999, except across a United Nations demilitarized zone, such as Korea; continue use of "smart" mines indefinitely, until alternatives were developed; and negotiate an international agreement to ban anti-personnel mines.

C. Regional initiatives

8. Action against these weapons has also continued at the regional level.

9. In December 1995, the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference appealed for the complete elimination of anti-personnel landmines.

10. In February 1996, the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) called on subregional organizations on the continent to launch

initiatives for the prohibition of anti-personnel landmines in support of the previous commitment of OAU to a total ban of such weapons. In a resolution on the plight of African children in situations of armed conflict, adopted by the same body at its meeting held at Yaounde, Cameroon, from 1 to 5 July 1996, the OAU decided to put a total ban on the production, use, stockpiling, sale and export of anti-personnel landmines in the continent, in order to protect the well-being of African children and peoples.

11. In April 1996, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe expressed support for a total ban on anti-personnel landmines. Similarly, on 13 May, the European Parliament called on all member States to ban unilaterally the production and use of anti-personnel mines and to destroy existing stocks. The Interparliamentary Union, which expressed its support for such a ban in 1995, presented an appeal signed by 250 parliamentarians to the President of the CCW Review Conference during the course of the recent session.

12. In May 1996, at a two-day seminar held at Managua and organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Nicaraguan Red Cross, Central American countries, among them Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, as well as Mexico, called for a total ban on the production, possession, transfer and use of anti-personnel landmines. The seminar, which was devoted to mines, mine clearance and victim rehabilitation, was attended by 75 officials, including the representatives of States in the region, United Nations agencies, the Organization of American States and non-governmental organizations. The seminar's recommendations were adopted by all the participating States.

13. At the 1996 meeting of the group of seven major industrialized countries held in France in June, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States issued a final communiqué calling upon all States to spare no effort in securing a global ban on the scourge represented by the proliferation and the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel landmines. The Group also welcomed the moratoria and bans already adopted by a number of countries on the production, use and export of these weapons.

14. The Organization of American States, which met at Panama City from 3 to 7 June 1996, adopted a resolution urging States to declare a moratorium on the production, use and transfer of all anti-personnel mines and to ratify the 1980 Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its amended Protocol II. The resolution also provided for the opening of a register at the organization's General Secretariat to record information on existing stocks, the current mine-clearance situation and follow-up activities after each session of the General Assembly. The resolution also called for the establishment of an "anti-personnel-mine-free zone" in the Americas. A similar initiative, combining national renunciation of anti-personnel landmines with increased mine-clearance and victim assistance, was also taken by the Central American Parliament recently. This, it has been pointed out, could make Central America the first mine-infested region to free itself from such weapons.

D. Global initiatives

15. One of the first global initiatives to have been made since the Review Conference is Canada's decision to hold an international conference at Ottawa in September 1996. It is Canada's intention to bring together for a brainstorming strategy session those countries which have expressed support for a total ban on anti-personnel landmines. The conference will consider short- and medium-term steps that need to be taken to facilitate the goal of a global ban.

III. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

ARGENTINA

[Original: Spanish]

[20 March 1996]

1. The Argentine Republic is interested in all issues relating to the problem of mines and firmly believes that both the proliferation and the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines are problems important enough to merit multilateral consideration as a matter of priority at this time. Consequently, the Argentine Government has taken the following actions:

(a) The Argentine Republic has declared a five-year moratorium on the export, sale or transfer of all such anti-personnel mines, without exception. On 27 March 1995, it endorsed General Assembly resolution 48/75 by Executive Decree No. 435/95;

(b) On 9 August 1995, the Honourable Congress of the Nation ratified the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, signed by the Argentine Republic in 1981;

(c) Participation of the Republic in the four preparatory meetings for the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, which took place in Geneva in 1994 and 1995, and participation in the Review Conference, whose first two sessions were held from 25 September to 13 October 1995 in Vienna and from 15 to 19 January 1996 in Geneva;

(d) Co-sponsorship of General Assembly resolutions on this subject (48/7, 48/75 K, 48/79, 49/75 D, 49/79, 49/215, 50/70 O, 50/74, 50/82);

(e) Participation of the Republic in the International Meeting on Mine Clearance, which took place in Geneva from 5 to 7 July 1995;

(f) Offer to clear mines in the Malvinas (see document A/49/76). At the International Meeting on Mine Clearance, the Argentine Republic asked that the funds to be spent on mine clearance in the Malvinas should be considered a contribution to the Voluntary Trust Fund established pursuant to General

Assembly resolution 48/7 on assistance in mine clearance, adopted without a vote on 19 October 1993;

(g) Participation of the Republic in mine-clearance operations in Kuwait and Nicaragua in the framework of United Nations peacekeeping operations and through the Organization of American States;

(h) The Argentine Republic has submitted information on the status of mine clearance in Argentina to the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat for inclusion in the data bank which that Department is preparing on the subject;

(i) Likewise, Argentina has supplied information on personnel trained in each stage of mine-clearance activities for inclusion in the list being prepared by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs.

2. Argentina's policy on anti-personnel mines reflects its position on disarmament and arms control: on the one hand, it calls for restrictions on a type of weapon characterized by its particularly cruel impact on its victims, and, on the other, it reflects Argentina's concern about indiscriminate effects, which has led our country to adopt a policy of non-proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and missiles.

3. In Argentina's view, the international community must identify ways and means of cooperating and coordinating their efforts to stop this scourge, since the capacity of the United Nations system to solve this problem can be enhanced only through a well-planned, integrated and coordinated approach.

CANADA

[Original: English and French]

[26 January 1996]

1. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. André Ouellet, and Minister of Defence, Mr. David Collenette, today announced that Canada is declaring comprehensive unilateral moratoriums on the production, export and operational use of anti-personnel landmines. "Canadians are appalled by the ongoing tragedy caused by the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel landmines. With these moratoriums in place, Canada moves to the forefront of countries seeking a global ban on these weapons. We hope others will follow", said Mr. Ouellet. "Anti-personnel landmines sown at random with no regard for the laws of war have become a scourge of humanity. Canada has not been part of the problem, but we will certainly be part of the solution", stated Mr. Collenette.

2. These domestic measures complement Canada's ongoing diplomatic efforts to promote universal adherence to a strengthened Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. Canada is now at the forefront of a growing number of countries that have moved to restrict or declare moratoriums on the use, production and export of anti-personnel landmines.

3. Canada is working to increase restrictions on the use of landmines until these weapons are eliminated from the world's arsenals. The Canadian Forces have played a leading role in numerous demining operations around the world to eliminate the danger posed by anti-personnel landmines.

COLOMBIA

[Original: Spanish]

[15 March 1996]

1. At the request of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Government of Colombia has the honour to state its position on resolution 50/70 O, entitled "Moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines", adopted by the General Assembly on 12 December 1995.

2. The Government of Colombia believes that only a total ban on the use, manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and trade of all types of anti-personnel landmines can solve the human problem they represent.

3. While Colombia, in supporting resolution 50/70 O, welcomed the decision of some States to declare a moratorium on exports of anti-personnel landmines and urged States which had not yet done so to declare such a moratorium as soon as possible, it believes that this measure, though a step in the right direction, is insufficient to remedy the current situation.

4. A number of Governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals have put forward proposals designed to strengthen Protocol II of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects. These proposals seek to impose bans and new restrictions and conditions aimed at reducing the danger posed by anti-personnel landmines to the civilian population. From a humanitarian standpoint, each of these proposals has different features which must be carefully evaluated, with a view to determining whether any of these proposals, or a combination of them, would, in practice, have a significant impact on the human toll taken by anti-personnel landmines.

5. Nonetheless, if the States parties to the Convention fail to agree, at the Review Conference to be held in Geneva, on strict prohibitions and restrictions on existing landmines, this will only encourage the development of technologies for the production of mines with new mechanisms which, while they might reduce some risks, would not solve the problem. This reflects a lack of political will on the part of some States to adapt the production and trade of anti-personnel landmines, as well as their military use, to the humanitarian goals of the Convention.

6. The failure to impose a total ban on anti-personnel landmines and the authorization of those which contain, inter alia, self-destruct and self-neutralizing mechanisms would introduce selective and discriminatory criteria into Protocol II. It should be noted that the parties which support this

proposal are precisely the ones which would be in a position to produce and market mines equipped with the new technologies.

7. The attitudes manifested during the Review Conference show that: (a) States lack a sufficiently deep-rooted humanitarian awareness of the human, social and economic costs of anti-personnel landmines; (b) the complex, costly technical measures proposed would not solve the human problem caused by these mines; (c) many States would be unwilling to do without anti-personnel landmines or to replace the ones they already have because of the cost of modifying their arsenals; besides, it is likely that the production of mines with self-destruct and self-neutralizing mechanisms would lead to an increase in their use and trade.

8. In view of the facts presented at the Review Conference, the current situation of the 1980 Convention and its Protocol II should be analysed carefully with a view to considering more effective measures to reduce the number of victims of anti-personnel landmines.

9. As the Review Conference approaches the final stage of its work in Geneva, its outcome will be judged not only by the texts agreed upon, but also by its capacity to offer solutions to the human problems entailed by anti-personnel landmines, to help ensure strict compliance with the commitments made by States which are already parties to the Convention and to identify the mechanisms needed to prevent future catastrophes caused by these mines.

CUBA

[Original: Spanish]

[15 April 1996]

1. The Permanent Mission of Cuba wishes to emphasize that Cuba has not exported and does not export mines of any kind, and hopes that other countries will adopt the same position.

2. Cuba is taking an active part in the work of the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects; as for the possible amendments to the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II), Cuba is prepared to accept a total ban on the export of all types of mines to other States, whether or not they are parties to the Convention or to its Protocol II.

3. As it has stated in a number of international forums, Cuba uses anti-personnel landmines solely for national defence in case of imminent threat or foreign aggression; thus, their use is entirely defensive. Cuban military policy does not provide for the use of mines against the country's own people, much less against those of other States.

4. Cuba considers that the considerable problems with anti-personnel mines experienced by a number of third world countries are due in large part, if we limit ourselves to the most direct causes, to the unscrupulous export policies which have been extensively practised by several developed countries; these have made substantial profits from such operations and taken little account of the impact on the civilian populations of many countries.

5. Cuba strongly urges such States to take all necessary steps to end such policies as soon as possible and is prepared to give appropriately serious and thorough consideration to any measure which may be proposed for that purpose.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

[Original: Spanish]

[8 April 1996]

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, the Dominican Republic has not imported or transferred in 1994 or 1995 any of the weapons specified in Protocol II to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects. Our Government does not agree with the use of such weapons by any country.

FINLAND

[Original: English]

[8 May 1996]

Finland would like to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General that it has never exported any anti-personnel landmines. Thus, Finland in practice applies a moratorium on the export of all types of anti-personnel landmines.

This information is supplementary to the answer provided on the same issue by the European Union on behalf of its member States.

GERMANY

[Original: English]

[15 May 1996]

1. The Federal Cabinet decided on 11 January 1996 to indefinitely extend the German export moratorium on anti-personnel mines, which was due to expire in June 1997. The moratorium had entered into force on 1 July 1994 for an initial period of three years. On 16 April 1996, the Federal Government, as a next step, fully and unconditionally renounced the use of anti-personnel mines.

2. With these concrete steps, the Federal Government both contributed to the worldwide efforts to stop proliferation of anti-personnel mines and reaffirmed its support for General Assembly resolution 50/70 O entitled "Moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines", of which Germany was a sponsor. Both steps are consistent with the Federal Government's pursuit of a universal ban on anti-personnel mines.

3. They were also meant to encourage the States parties to the Landmine Protocol to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons of 1980 to put humanitarian considerations first and agree at the Review Conference in May this year on tighter restrictions and prohibitions both on the use and transfer of anti-personnel mines.

ICELAND

[Original: English]

[18 June 1996]

Exports of all products to be used for military purposes, including anti-personnel landmines, are subject to permits issued by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and External Trade. The Government of Iceland has declared its support for a comprehensive ban on the use of anti-personnel landmines and does not, accordingly, permit the export of such landmines from Iceland.

ISRAEL

[Original: English]

[15 July 1996]

1. The Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to bring to his attention the decision of the Government of Israel to extend the moratorium on export of anti-personnel landmines for a further period of three years.

2. Landmines laid during times of armed conflict and left after the conflict is over, have caused many tragedies for a large number of civilians. The proliferation of landmines has had tragic consequences, and it is estimated that there are more than 110 million undeclared landmines scattered over 69 countries, most of them in the developing world, causing death and injury on a daily basis.

3. The need to mobilize the international community to address this issue is widely recognized, and Israel has consistently supported the resolutions of the General Assembly calling for a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel mines.

4. Addressing the worldwide effort to reduce the damage caused by anti-personnel mines, the Government of Israel has, therefore, decided to extend the moratorium which it declared in July 1994 for a further period of three

years. During this period, Israel will continue to work with other interested parties in reviewing the establishment of a permanent regime for banning the transfer of anti-personnel mines.

5. Israel reiterates its readiness to share with other States its know-how, assistance and training in mine clearance.

6. The Government of Israel trusts that other States, especially in the Middle East region, will actively participate in the international efforts to eliminate the proliferation of anti-personnel landmines, and that they will also declare moratoriums on the export of such weapons.

ITALY*

[Original: English/French]

[28 May 1996]

Italy is pleased to provide the following common reply concerning resolution 50/70 O, entitled "Moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines", adopted by the General Assembly on 12 December 1995:

> "Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 48/75 K, 49/75 D and 50/70 O, which call upon States to declare a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines, the European Union wishes to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations that the Council of the European Union decided on 12 May 1995 that joint action should be taken regarding anti-personnel mines, one aspect of which is the declaration of such a moratorium in the following terms:
>
> "(a) A joint moratorium on the export of anti-personnel mines is being implemented by the member States in the light of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly;
>
> "(b) The moratorium includes a total ban on of the export to any destination of undetectable anti-personnel mines and of non-self-neutralizing anti-personnel mines, and a ban on the export of all other types of anti-personnel mines to States which have not yet ratified the 1981 Convention and its Protocol II;
>
> "(c) Member States wishing to do so may implement more broadly based moratoriums."

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* On behalf of the European Union and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe associated with it (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia), as well as of the associated countries Cyprus and Malta.

JORDAN

[Original: English]

[15 May 1996]

Jordan does not manufacture anti-personnel landmines or any kind of landmines. Jordan has never been involved in manufacture and/or export of landmines and it has no intention to do so in the future.

LIECHTENSTEIN

[Original: English]

[14 May 1996]

The Liechtenstein delegation to the CCW Review Conference, in its statement made on 22 April 1996, joined other countries in calling for a total ban on the export of anti-personnel landmines.

SINGAPORE

[Original: English]

[7 May 1996]

1. Singapore shares a deep concern expressed by many members of the international community regarding the humanitarian problems caused by anti-personnel landmines. The irresponsible and indiscriminate use of landmines poses a grave danger to civilian populations and is a serious threat to the safety and lives of personnel participating in United Nations humanitarian, peacekeeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations. Singapore therefore endorses the call by the General Assembly to increase mine-clearing efforts by the international community.

2. Singapore has decided to institute, with immediate effect, a two-year moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines that have no self-destruct or self-neutralizing mechanisms. In our view, anti-personnel landmines with no self-destruct or self-neutralizing mechanisms are the fundamental cause of the humanitarian problems caused by landmines, as they continue to inflict harm on civilian populations long after emplacement.

3. Singapore shares the view expressed by several countries during the fiftieth session of the General Assembly that it is not practical to have a blanket ban on all types of anti-personnel landmines, as many countries still see the need for anti-personnel landmines for legitimate self-defence purposes. Attempts to eliminate anti-personnel landmines altogether can be counter-productive, as some countries will regard such moves as a threat to their security. A lack of general support could also set back efforts to achieve a consensus on how to eliminate the humanitarian problems caused by anti-personnel

landmines. Singapore is committed to working with members of the international community to find a durable solution to this problem.

UKRAINE

[Original: Russian]

[5 June 1996]

1. Ukraine is observing the four-year moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines of all types that entered into force on 1 September 1995 in accordance with resolution 686 of the Cabinet of Ministers of 27 August 1995. Ukraine considers that the adoption by all countries of a comprehensive moratorium on the export of anti-personnel mines would make a positive contribution to the solution of the humanitarian crisis that has resulted from their use.

2. Pursuant to the aforementioned resolution, the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence has:

(a) Made a detailed inventory of anti-personnel landmines of all types;

(b) Established the conditions for their storage;

(c) Introduced permanent monitoring of orders for the sale or transfer of anti-personnel mines. Such orders are not filled.

3. Supporting the efforts of the international community to eliminate the threat that landmines pose to the world's population, Ukraine is actively working to reduce its stocks of anti-personnel landmines. The State programme regulating the use of conventional types of ammunition, adopted by a Government resolution of 20 January 1995, provides for the immediate elimination of anti-personnel landmines. Moreover, the possibility of adopting a decision to prohibit their production entirely has not been ruled out.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[Original: English]

[29 August 1996]

1. The United States believes the international community should take strong action to reduce the threat posed to civilian populations by the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel landmines. Hence, on 11 November 1993, the United States formally introduced in the First Committee of the General Assembly a draft resolution calling for States to implement moratoriums on anti-personnel landmine exports. On 3 November 1994, the United States formally introduced in the First Committee a similar draft resolution, which called not only for export moratoriums, but for further international efforts to address the problem, with a view to the eventual elimination of anti-personnel landmines. On

6 November 1995, the United States formally introduced in the First Committee another draft resolution, which also called for export moratoriums and for further international efforts to address the problem, with a view to the eventual elimination of anti-personnel landmines. All three resolutions were approved in the Assembly by consensus. The United States will formally introduce a resolution in the First Committee at the fifty-first session of the Assembly urging Member States to support negotiation of a worldwide ban on anti-personnel landmines.

2. On 16 May 1996, President Clinton announced a new United States anti-personnel landmine policy. The initiative sets out a concrete path to a global ban on anti-personnel landmines but ensures that as the United States pursues this ban, essential United States military requirements and commitments to our allies will be protected:

(a) International ban. The United States will aggressively pursue an international agreement to ban use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel landmines with a view to completing the negotiations as soon as possible;

(b) Korea exception. The United States views the security situation on the Korean peninsula as a unique case and in the negotiation of this agreement will protect our right to use anti-personnel landmines there until alternatives become available or the risk of aggression has been removed;

(c) Ban on non-self-destructing anti-personnel landmines. Effective immediately, the United States will unilaterally undertake not to use, and to place in inactive stockpile status with intent to demilitarize by the end of 1999, all non-self-destructing anti-personnel landmines not needed to train personnel engaged in demining and countermining operations or defend the United States and its allies from armed aggression across the Korean demilitarized zone;

(d) Self-destructing anti-personnel landmines. Between now and the time an international agreement takes effect, the United States will reserve the option to use self-destructing/self-deactivating anti-personnel landmines, subject to the restrictions the United States has accepted in the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, in military hostilities to safeguard American lives and hasten the end of fighting;

(e) Programme to eliminate. The President has directed the Secretary of Defense to undertake a programme of research, procurement and other measures needed to eliminate the requirement for these exceptions and to permit both the United States and our allies to end reliance on anti-personnel landmines as soon as possible;

(f) Annual report. Beginning in 1999, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff will submit an annual report to the President and the Secretary of Defense outlining his assessment of whether there remains a military requirement for the exceptions noted above and a status report of the search for alternatives to anti-personnel landmines as defined immediately above;

(g) Expanding demining efforts. The Department of Defense will continue its research and development programme to accelerate development of improved mine detection and clearing technology and to share this improved technology with the international community. The United States Government will also expand its humanitarian demining programme to train and assist other countries in developing effective indigenous demining programmes, to include mine awareness.

3. On 12 February 1996, the United States enacted a one-year extension of its moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines, extending the moratorium until 1997 (Public Law 104-107, 12 February 1996). Since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 48/75 K of 16 December 1993 calling on States to adopt a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines, we have approached States that either produce or export anti-personnel landmines, requesting that they also adopt export moratoriums.

4. Further steps are needed to address the scope of problems associated with indiscriminately placed landmines. Efforts to clear mines already laid and to call for the early entry into force of Protocol II, as amended, of the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects are critical elements of a comprehensive strategy.

5. The United States has humanitarian demining programmes in Asia, Africa, Central America, and now Bosnia. In the last year we have spent more than $30 million on global demining assistance, including a pledge of $12.5 million at the International Meeting on Mine Clearance.

6. As a full party to the Convention, the United States was very active in gaining agreement on proposals to strengthen restrictions in the Landmines Protocol. We were pleased that the Review Conference adopted an amended Landmines Protocol, which will, if widely observed, result in greater protection for civilians. However, we were disappointed that the amended Protocol did not include all the improvements proposed by the United States. In particular, it does not include a mechanism for compliance investigations; it does not impose a prohibition on non-detectable anti-tank mines that pose special risks to civilians or mine-clearance personnel; and it permits parties to defer compliance with certain technical provisions for up to nine years. We will continue to address these and other issues within the framework of the revised Protocol or in other forums.

7. In 1994, the United States and the United Kingdom developed a proposal for an anti-personnel landmine control programme. With the goal of the eventual elimination of anti-personnel landmines, as a first step, the programme would have imposed restrictions on the production, stockpiling and transfer of anti-personnel landmines, particularly anti-personnel landmines long-lived anti-personnel landmines, which can explode decades after emplacement. Over 30 countries attended a meeting, held at Budapest, on 29 and 30 June 1995, to discuss the joint United States/United Kingdom proposal. However, with President Clinton's 16 May announcement of the United States commitment to negotiate an international agreement on a comprehensive anti-personnel landmines ban, the United States and the United Kingdom have decided not to pursue the programme.